

**Response under 37 C.F.R. 1.116
- Expedited Examining Procedure -
Examining Group 2854**

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**Customer No. 01333
Confirmation No. 8137**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Koji Hayashi

LITHOGRAPHIC PRINTING PLATE
PRECURSOR AND PREPARATION
METHOD FOR PRINTING PLATE

Serial No. 10/544,191

Filed 03 February 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

Group Art Unit: 2854

Examiner: ZIMMERMAN, Joshua D.

Sir:

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

In response to the FINAL Office Action dated June 13, 2007,
Applicant requests reconsideration for the reasons that follow.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 12-14, 16, 17, and 19-21 have been rejected as anticipated
by US Patent 5,908,731 (Leenders et al.). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action argues that Leenders et al describes a
lithographic printing plate precursor containing a crosslinked product having a
polymer with a heat decomposable group that is an azo, etc. in the main chain and
a suitable crosslinking agent. It also argues that the various features of dependent
Claims 13-14, 16, 17, and 19-21 are described by Leenders et al.

The Final Rejection also argues (sentence bridging pages 2 and 3)
that Applicant admitted in his previous response that the precursors are “only”